

effect in a foreign country which is different and unintended under U.S. practice (i.e., changing “consisting of” to “comprising”); (v) to remove or amend original claim language that could be regarded as alternative expressions that are acceptable under foreign patent practice but possibly subject to objection under U.S. practice, typically having a broadening or neutral effect in the amended claim; and/or (vi) to improve the clarity or meaning of the original language.

In the case of amendments effectively changing an original claim element expressed as a “means plus function” that could raise a presumption of claim expression under 35 U.S.C. 112, 6th paragraph to a structural expression or to an expression removing the presumption of a “means-plus-function” statement, it is not intended to narrow the claim so amended for purposes of patentability, but rather to place the claim in a form considered to be intended by the applicant from a foreign country where claim limitations described in terms of means-plus-function do not have the same effect as under U.S. practice. Thus, such amendments are intended to establish a full range of equivalents to the claim elements so amended under the U.S. doctrine of equivalents and beyond the range associated with “means-plus-function” expressions according to 35 U.S.C. 112, 6th paragraph, just as if the claim so amended was presented originally in its amended form.

All rights are reserved to the original disclosed and claimed subject matter and any cancellation of claims is made without prejudice or disclaimer.

LIST OF CURRENT CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) A value document, comprising in particular bank note, ~~having~~ a value document substrate and at least two different feature substances for checking the value document, wherein ~~characterized in that~~ first and second feature substances form mutually independent codings, the second feature substance being applied to the value document substrate, and the first feature substance being applied to the value document substrate or incorporated into the volume of the substrate.
2. (Currently Amended) The value document according to claim 1, including ~~characterized in that~~ a third feature substance ~~[[is]]~~ incorporated into the volume of the substrate of the value document.
3. (Currently Amended) The value document according to claim 2, wherein ~~characterized in that~~ the third feature substance is distributed substantially uniformly within the volume of the value document substrate.
4. (Currently Amended) The value document according to claim 1, wherein ~~at least one of claims 1 to 3, characterized in that~~ at least one of the feature substances is formed by at least one of a luminescent substance and ~~[[or]]~~ a mixture of luminescent substances.
5. (Currently Amended) The value document according to claim 1, wherein ~~at least one of claims 1 to 4, characterized in that~~ at least one of the feature substances is formed on the basis of a host lattice doped with rare earth elements.
6. (Currently Amended) The value document according to claim 1, wherein ~~at least one of claims 1 to 5, characterized in that~~ at least one coding extends over a predominant part of a surface of the value document, ~~in particular over the substantially total surface of the value document.~~

7. (Currently Amended) The value document according to claim 1, wherein at least one of claims 1 to 6, characterized in that at least one coding is a bar code.

8. (Currently Amended) The value document according to claim 1, wherein at least one of claims 1 to 7, characterized in that at least one coding lies in the material properties, ~~in particular in the form of the emission and/or excitation spectra,~~ of at least one of the first and ~~and/or~~ second feature substance.

9. (Currently Amended) The value document according to claim 1, wherein at least one of claims 1 to 8, characterized in that at least one coding represents information about the value document, the information being present in at least one of encrypted and ~~[[or]]~~ unencrypted form.

10. (Currently Amended) The value document according to claim 1, wherein at least one of claims 1 to 9, characterized in that the codings formed by the first and second marking substances are either or both applied at different places of the value document and applied ~~and/or~~ with different shapes on the value document.

11. (Currently Amended) The value document according to claim 1, wherein at least one of claims 1 to 10, characterized in that the codings formed by the first and second marking substances represent different information contents.

12. (Currently Amended) The value document according to claim 1, wherein at least one of claims 1 to 11, characterized in that the value document substrate comprises a printed or unprinted cotton fiber paper.

13. (Currently Amended) The value document according to claim 1, wherein at least one of claims 1 to 12, characterized in that the value document substrate comprises a printed or unprinted plastic film.

14. (Currently Amended) The value document according to claim 1, wherein the substrate is paper having the form of a moist paper web during production, and wherein at least one of ~~at least one of the claims 1 to 13, characterized in that the~~ first and ~~and/or~~ second feature substance is printed on the value document substrate.

15. (Currently Amended) The value document according to claim 1, wherein at least one of ~~at least one of claims 1 to 14, characterized in that the~~ first and ~~and/or~~ second feature substance is applied to the moist paper web, ~~in particular sprayed on,~~ in the form of the coding during papermaking.

16. (Currently Amended) The value document according to claim 1, wherein at least one of ~~claims 1 to 15, characterized in that the~~ first feature substance is present within the volume of the value document substrate or near the surface in the substrate.

17. (Currently Amended) The value document according to claim 1, wherein at least one of ~~at least one of claims 1 to 16, characterized in that the~~ first and ~~and/or~~ second feature substance is colorless or has only little inherent color in the visible spectral range.

18. (Currently Amended) A method for producing a value document according to claim 1, comprising the steps: providing one of ~~claims 1 to 17, characterized in that the~~ first and second feature substances forming ~~form~~ mutually independent codings, the second feature substance being applied to the value document substrate, and the first feature substance either or both being applied to the value document substrate and ~~[[or]]~~ incorporated into the volume of the substrate.

19. (Currently Amended) The production method according to claim 18, wherein ~~characterized in that the~~ first and/or second feature substance is printed on the value document substrate.

20. (Currently Amended) The production method according to claim 18, wherein the value document substrate is formed by a printed or unprinted cotton paper, and wherein at least one of ~~characterized in that~~ the first and ~~and/or~~ second feature substance is sprayed onto the moist paper web during papermaking.

21. (Currently Amended) The production method according to claim 18, wherein ~~at least one of claims 18 to 20, characterized in that~~ a third feature substance is incorporated into the value document substrate.

22. (Currently Amended) A method for checking or processing a value document according to claim 1, comprising the steps: checking any of claims 1 to 17, wherein the authenticity of the value document ~~is checked~~ and carrying out a value recognition of the document ~~carried out~~ by using at least one characteristic property of at least one of the first and ~~and/or~~ second feature substance for checking the authenticity of the value document, and the coding formed by at least one of the first and ~~and/or~~ second feature substance for the value recognition of the value document.

23. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 22, wherein ~~characterized in that~~ at least one characteristic property of the first feature substance is used for checking the authenticity of the value document, and the coding formed by the first marking substance for the value recognition of the value document, by a user of a first user group.

24. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 22, wherein ~~or 23, characterized in that~~ at least one characteristic property of the second feature substance is used for checking the authenticity of the value document, and the coding formed by the second feature substance for the value recognition of the value document, by a user of a second user group.

25. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 22, wherein ~~or 23,~~
~~characterized in that~~ at least one characteristic property of at least one of the first
and ~~and/or~~ third feature substance is used for checking the authenticity of the value
document, and the coding formed by the first feature substance is used for the value
recognition of the value document, if the user belongs to the first user group, and at
least one characteristic property of the second feature substance is used for
checking the authenticity of the value document, and the coding formed by the
second feature substance is used for the value recognition of the value document, if
the user belongs to the second user group.

26. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 22, wherein ~~at least one~~
~~of claims 22 to 25, characterized in that~~ the first feature substance is a luminescent
substance, and for the authenticity check or value recognition by a user of the first
user group, the first feature substance is irradiated with radiation from its excitation
range, the emission is determined at at least one wavelength from the emission
range of the first feature substance, and at least one of the check of authenticity and
~~and/or~~ the value recognition is carried out on the basis of the determined emission.

27. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 22, wherein ~~at least one~~
~~of claims 22 to 26, characterized in that~~ the second feature substance is a
luminescent substance, for the authenticity check or value recognition by a user of
the second user group the second feature substance is irradiated with radiation from
its excitation range, the emission is determined at at least one wavelength from the
emission range of the second feature substance, and either or both the check of
authenticity and ~~and/or~~ the value recognition is carried out on the basis of the
determined emission.

28. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 26, wherein at least one
of ~~or 27, characterized in that~~ the first and ~~and/or~~ second feature substance is
irradiated with at least one of visible and ~~and/or~~ infrared radiation, and the emission
of the irradiated feature substance is determined in the infrared spectral range.

29. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 26, wherein at least one of claims 26 to 28, characterized in that the irradiation is performed with at least one of a light-emitting diode and a [[or]] laser diode.

30. (New) The value document according to claim 6, wherein the coding extends over substantially the total surface of the value document.

31. (New) The value document according to claim 8, wherein the material properties are in the form of at least one of emission and excitation spectra.

32. (New) The value document according to claim 15, wherein the second feature substance is sprayed on the moist paper web in the form of the coding.